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OUR GIRL IN RED CHINA—

AN INSIDE REPORT



LISA HOBBS holds an infant on the Vietnamese People's Friendship Commune outside Peking. The boy's grandmother looks on as they stand outside the family's one-room dwelling.

Red China, the world's most populous land, is also the world's biggest question mark. Since the Communists seized power and erected their Bamboo Curtain, American journalists have been barred from parting its strands.

But now Lisa Hobbs, staff writer for the San Francisco Examiner and Hearst Headline Service, has managed to penetrate that curtain to provide U.S. readers with an intimate look at life in Communist China today.

The mother of two children, Reporter Hobbs ran the risk of constant discovery in a land hostile to everything American. During 22 days in Red China, she was able to assess the Peking regime's anti-American propaganda campaign, the attitude of the "man in the street," the poverty and congestion of urban life.

Behind the Bamboo Curtain, she found, the women dance with bayonets, rather than babies, in their arms; the children are taught to shout slogans; and the European correspondents who report that things are looking up for Mao's masses are "guilty of verbal inflation."

The first of Miss Hobbs' special reports on the Question Mark of the Modern World—Inside Red China, starts today on Page 15.

Continued